

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Dr. James T. Hayes, Jr.

WHEREAS, it was with great sadness and a profound sense of loss that the members of this General Assembly and the citizens of our state learned of the death of a distinguished Tennessean, Dr. James T. Hayes, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, knowledgeable observers have said that James Hayes was a great man with unparalleled compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Hayes was a native Tennessean, the son of Dr. James T. Hayes, Sr., and Mary Stratton Hayes of Madison; he was the grandson of John Taylor Stratton who incorporated Spring Hill Cemetery in 1885, a cemetery that would become a successful business and the legacy of the Stratton-Hayes family; and

WHEREAS, a 1959 graduate of Montgomery Bell Academy, James Hayes earned his bachelor's degree with honors from the University of Tennessee; then, accepting a call to Christian service, he obtained his Master of Divinity and Doctor of Ministry degrees from Vanderbilt University; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Hayes first served the Lord as pastor of Aldersgate United Methodist Church, and continued to serve the pastorates of Dodson Chapel United Methodist Church, Christ Church United Methodist of McMinnville, and LaVergne First United Methodist Church; and

WHEREAS, in 1991, Dr. Hayes felt the need to return to the family business and took a sabbatical to become President of Spring Hill; ever one to shoulder the mantle of professional responsibility, Dr. Hayes was invited to sit on the board of the Cemetery Association of

Tennessee, where he was elected third Vice-President and unofficially served as the Association's Chaplain; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Hayes' concern for and commitment to humanity was apparent as we take note of the groups and organizations he served, including: the Madison Chamber of Commerce; Madison-Goodlettsville Rotary Club; the Nashville Emmaus Community, of which he served as Spiritual Director; and the Wednesday Morning Men's Prayer group; and

WHEREAS, a sagacious leader and true friend to the community, Dr. Hayes served on the McKendree Village Board of Directors for fourteen years, was Secretary to the Board for seven years, and led the EAGLE (Education Assessment Guidelines Leading Toward Excellence) Committee for the Village; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his many accomplishments in a life given over to the will of God, Dr. James T. Hayes, Jr., was most appreciative of the love and companionship he shared with his wife Marylyn Poteete Hayes; their five daughters: Denise LeMay, Teresa Hartman, Lisa Lucas, Cheree and Kristie Hayes; and their eleven grandchildren: Melissa, Michael and Chris LeMay, Eric and Cody Hartman, Austin, Gina and Niki Lucas, Tyler, Tanner and April Roberts; and

WHEREAS, although Dr. Hayes has relinquished this life for a far better existence, the legacy of his uncompromising love, stalwart devotion and deep religious conviction will live forever in the hearts and minds of many; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we hereby pause to mourn the death while also celebrating the life of this fine Tennessean whose many successes and selfless contributions will be remembered for years to come.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express our condolences to the family and many friends of Dr. Hayes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.